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FREDERICK W. NEIBUHR
HAUGEN AND NIKOLAI
820 INTERNATIONAL CENTRE
900 SECOND AVE. SOUTH
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-3025

GUTOWSKI, A

3306

07/27/92

RECORDED IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

This application has been examined Responsive to communication filed on _____ This action is made final.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire _____ month(s), 30 days from the date of this letter.
Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. 35 U.S.C. 133

Part I THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENT(S) ARE PART OF THIS ACTION:

1. Notice of References Cited by Examiner, PTO-892. 2. Notice re Patent Drawing, PTO-948.
3. Notice of Art Cited by Applicant, PTO-1449. 4. Notice of informal Patent Application, Form PTO-152.
5. Information on How to Effect Drawing Changes, PTO-1474. 6. _____

Part II SUMMARY OF ACTION

1. Claims 1-23 are pending in the application.

Of the above, claims _____ are withdrawn from consideration.

2. Claims _____ have been cancelled.

3. Claims _____ are allowed.

4. Claims _____ are rejected.

5. Claims _____ are objected to.

6. Claims 1-23 are subject to restriction or election requirement.

7. This application has been filed with informal drawings under 37 C.F.R. 1.85 which are acceptable for examination purposes.

8. Formal drawings are required in response to this Office action.

9. The corrected or substitute drawings have been received on _____. Under 37 C.F.R. 1.84 these drawings are acceptable. not acceptable (see explanation or Notice re Patent Drawing, PTO-948).

10. The proposed additional or substitute sheet(s) of drawings, filed on _____ has (have) been approved by the examiner. disapproved by the examiner (see explanation).

11. The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____, has been approved. disapproved (see explanation).

12. Acknowledgment is made of the claim for priority under U.S.C. 119. The certified copy has been received not been received been filed in parent application, serial no. _____; filed on _____

13. Since this application appears to be in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

14. Other

Art Unit 336

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

I. Claims 16-23 are, drawn to a balloon catheter, classified in Class 604, subclass 96.

II. Claims 1-15 are, drawn to a method of bonding polymeric elements with monochromatic energy, classified in Class 156, subclass 272.8.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions in Group I and in Group II are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (M.P.E.P. § 806.05(f)). In the instant case the product as claimed can be made by a materially different process such as bonding by sonic welding, adhesive, or a heated metal press.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, divergent subject matter and distinct searches, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is advised that the response to this requirement

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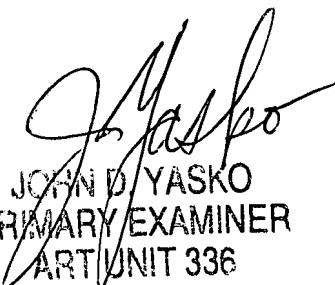
Art Unit 336

to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Anthony Gutowski at telephone number (703) 308-2980.


A. Gutowski/pw

July 23, 1992


JOHN D. YASKO
PRIMARY EXAMINER
ART UNIT 336